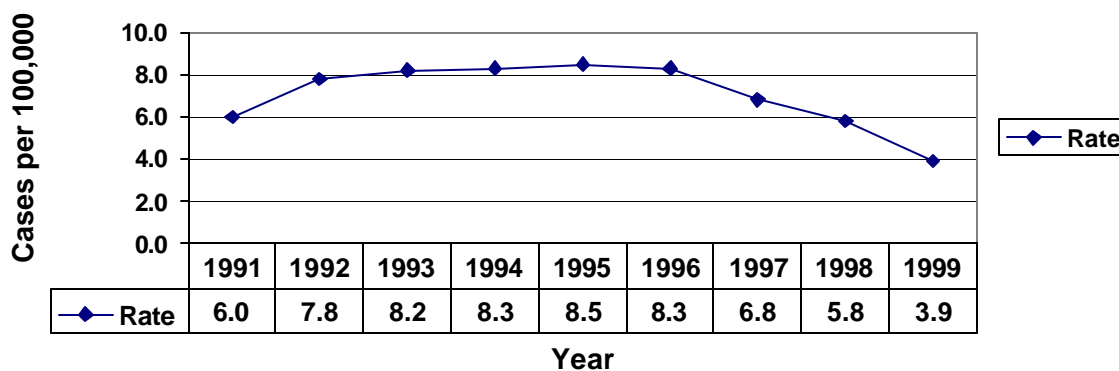


AIDS

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a life threatening condition representing the late stage of infection by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Persons are infected by this retrovirus through sexual exposure or contact with blood infected with HIV, by injecting drugs with a contaminated syringe, or by receiving a contaminated transfusion. Mothers also can pass HIV to their children during pregnancy and delivery. Regular social contact with an HIV infected person harbors no risk for infection.

HIV infects and destroys CD4+ cells, a subset of the T lymphocyte that is critically important in directing the immune response. The decline in the number of CD4+ cells allows certain opportunistic infections, such as *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia, to replicate in the body. Certain neurological disorders also may result from HIV infection. Since 1993, the CDC has defined most AIDS cases by the presence of HIV and one or more opportunistic infection and /or a CD4+ count of $<200\text{mm}^3$ or $<14\%$.

**AIDS Incidence by Year of Diagnosis
Kentucky, 1991-1999**



The decline in AIDS incidence is partially due to advances in antiretrovirals and treatments for opportunistic infections. Also, in more recent years, particularly 1998 and 1999, the decline may be due to delays in reporting. The incidence rates presented in this chapter are not adjusted for reporting delay. All data are current as of December 31, 1999.

	1998	1999
Number of Cases	227	153
Rate per 100,000	5.8	3.9

Rate by Gender (per 100,000)

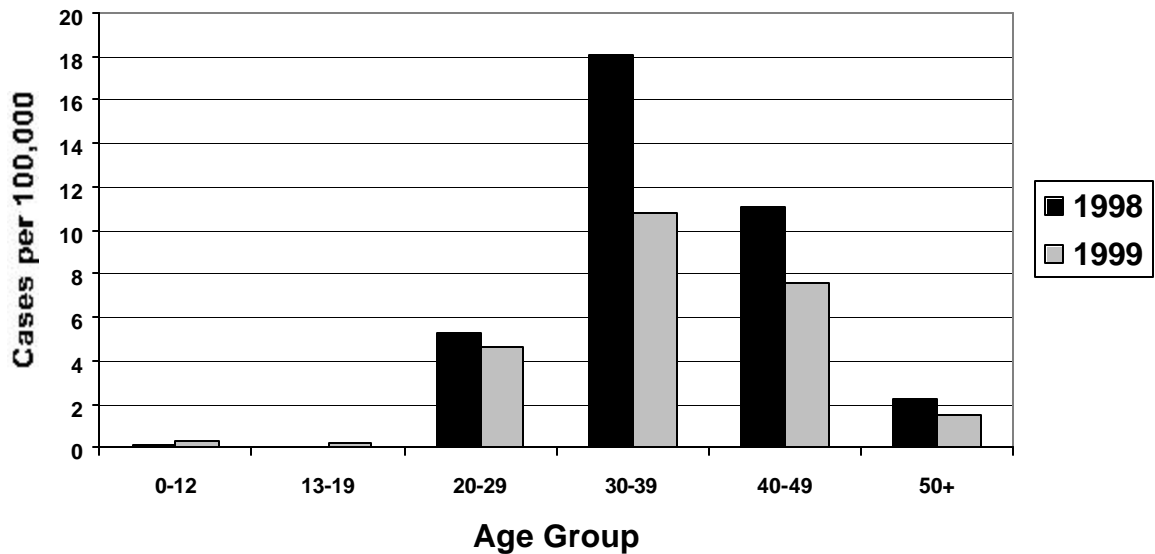
Female	2.0	1.5
Male	9.7	6.4

	1998	1999
Rate by Race (per 100,000)		
White and Other	4.1	2.6
African-American	27.8	20.7

AIDS Cases by Mode of Exposure Kentucky, 1998 - 1999				
Mode of Exposure	1998		1999	
	Cases	%	Cases	%
Men who Have Sex with Men (MSM)	106	47%	77	50%
Injecting Drug Use (IDU)	35	15%	23	15%
MSM and IDU	14	6%	3	2%
Blood Products	0	0%	0	0%
Heterosexual	34	15%	24	16%
Perinatal	1	0.4%	2	1%
Undetermined	37	16%	24	16%
TOTAL	227	100%	153	100%

The highest percentage of reported AIDS cases diagnosed in 1998 and 1999 were among men who have sex with men at 47% and 50%, respectively.

AIDS, Age-Specific Incidence Kentucky, 1998-1999

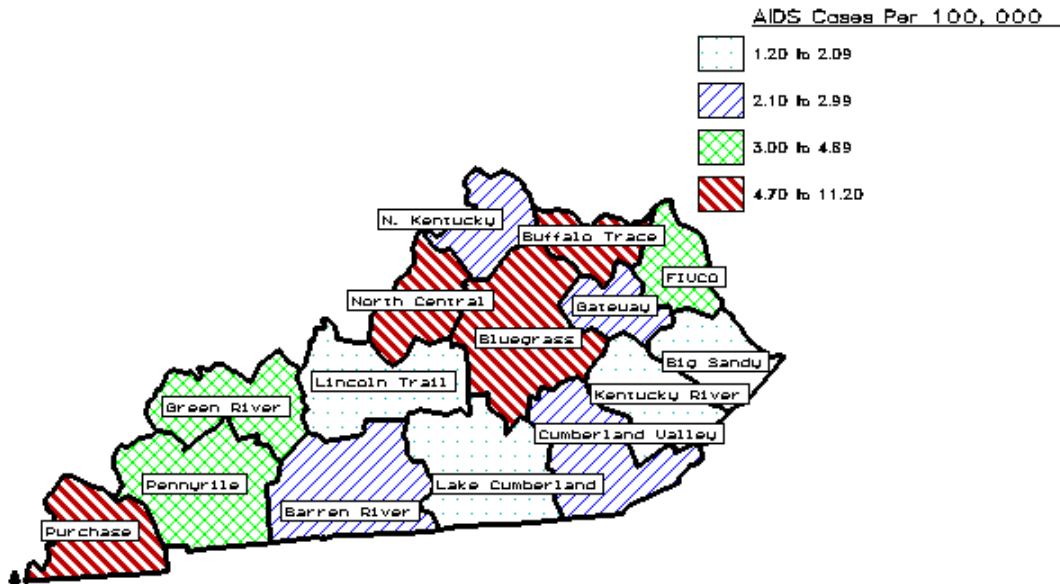


Age Specific Incidence per 100,000

Age	0-12	13-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
1998	.1	.0	5.3	18.0	11.1	2.2
1999	.3	.2	4.6	10.8	7.6	1.5

Persons in the 30-39 year age group had the highest incidence in both years, followed by the 40-49 year age group.

AIDS by District, Kentucky Average Annual Incidence, 1998-1999



The North Central District reported the highest average annual incidence at 11.2 per 100,000 persons. The Buffalo Trace District reported the next highest incidence at 5.5 per 100,000, followed by the Bluegrass District at 4.8 per 100,000.